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TO:	<u>Derris Banks</u>	FROM:	<u>Scotty Strahen</u>
COMPANY:	<u>PTO</u>	PHONE NUMBER:	<u>512 249 8344</u>
FAX NUMBER:	<u>703 872 9306</u>	DATE:	<u>9/30</u>
PHONE NUMBER:		TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	
RE:	<u>Patent Application # 10/688,738</u>		

☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Dear Mr. Banks,

Please find enclosed a cover letter and patent response Fedex'ed to you 8/3/2004, but not delivered! ~~And~~ Please also find an interview summary Fedex'ed on 8/18/2004, and similarly not delivered. Both were only returned to me ~~at~~ yesterday 9/29/2004. I have also included the fedex paperwork & tracking numbers - Thank you for your understanding.

Patent Application number: 10/688,738
Applicant: Strahan, Scotty
9404 Savannah Ridge Dr
Austin TX 78726

Phone: 512 232 7467
Email: strahan@sbcglobal.net

August 3, 2004

Commissioner of Patents
Delores Collins and Derris Banks
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Dolores Collins, Patent Examiner, and Derris Banks, Patent Examiner

This letter is in response to your recommendation letter dated May 7, 2004. I have changed the title to "Personalized Trading Cards," which represents the invention much better than the previous title. Please also find enclosed a revised patent application that spells out the differences with prior art, and adjusts the description and claims to differentiate this patent more clearly from previous patents. The key revisions are concerned with narrowing of the claims to a personalized trading card game.

I have expanded the treatment of prior art on personalized playing cards (second paragraph in Description of Related Art). In summary, this patent application is for a personalized trading card game toy. The prior art specifies their own game, such as Pokemon in Sakamoto et al., or personalizes a standard deck of 52 playing cards with one repeated personalized pattern on the back of every card, such as Grunwald. Grunwald in fact notes that personalizing each card differently is counter indicated in his patent (lines 37-44). This patent is instead for a game in which one creates trading cards where a player uniquely personalizes every card to create a new game of the player's or players' own invention.

I have revised the claims to more carefully spell out these differences as follows.

Revised claims:

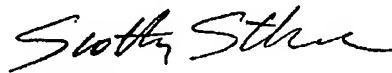
1. A trading card game toy that provides a plurality of cards with a format on which a player uniquely personalizes the front of each trading card with different characters or emblems or words or numbers to create trading cards for use in a personalized trading card game with rules of the player's own invention.
2. A trading card game toy according to claim 1, wherein the surface for personalizing is a matte finish and is either blank or marked with a template that

has guide lines. Players can thus easily draw, write, color, paint, stencil, sticker, or apply any other type of art medium to each card.

3. A trading card game toy according to claim 1 and 2, wherein the back (reverse) side of said cards has the same logo on each and will either have a matte finish or be covered with some form of plastic or lamination.

Thank you for your time and recommendations. I hope these changes address all the concerns that you have raised.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scotty Strahan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scotty" and last name "Strahan" clearly distinguishable.

Scotty Strahan

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8 Release Signature

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